



NARFE NEWSLETTER

GREATER BOWIE-CROFTON AREA

CHAPTER 1747

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Volume 27, No. 6

February 2007

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are held at Bowie City Hall (2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie) on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in Conference Room 204. There is never a charge to attend and all meetings are open to the public.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 AM in Conference Room 125, Bowie Senior Center. All chapter members are welcome.

NOTE: Chapter meetings are cancelled when Prince George's County schools are closed due to inclement weather. Otherwise, meetings are held as scheduled.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

❖ *General Meeting.* Thursday, February 15; 10:00 AM Program: Low Maintenance Gardening. Speaker: John Peter Thompson of Behnke Nurseries.

❖ *General Meeting.* Thursday, March 15, 10:00 AM Program: Assisted Living Options.

❖ *General Meeting.* Thursday, April 19, 10:00 AM Program: Nutrition, especially feeding your brain. Information from the Alzheimer's Association.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ed Bice

Election of Officers

On June 30, 2007 your chapter officers' terms will end. Some of the current officers will choose to run for another term, and some will be retiring. As of this date, both our long-time treasurer and secretary have indicated that they will not stand for re-election. Therefore, we are looking for replacements. The election will take place at the May meeting. The term of office is two years.

This is your chapter. Our chapter is one of the best. We now have over a thousand members. If any of you want to volunteer and be part of the future,

Support NARFE

Volunteer for an office!
Return nomination form to Frances Steburg.

please step forward. Also you might show your interest in a particular position by contacting me or the person holding that office to see what the position is all about. I thank you!

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Paul Schuette

The election of Rep. Steny Hoyer as majority leader of the House of Representatives has won high praise from NARFE President Margaret Baptiste.

Hoyer represents Maryland's 5th Congressional District, which includes a big chunk of Chapter 1747's membership area.

Baptiste lauded Hoyer as a "champion" of the federal community.

"Although there are dozens of federal friendly lawmakers, a small number of them go to extraordinary lengths to support the interests of the federal community," said Baptiste. "Congressman Hoyer has been one of those champions and that's why we are especially happy to see that he has been elected to the second highest office in the House of Representatives."

NARFE has never before had such "a good friend so high in the congressional leadership," she added. "We are pleased that one of our staunchest advocates will be at the table when critical decisions are made about our earned economic and health security."

Ben Cardin, who represented our many chapter members living in the 3rd Congressional District (Odenton, Crofton), is now Senator Cardin, succeeding Paul Sarbanes.

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John Sarbanes, son of the retired Senator, has moved into Cardin's 3rd District seat in the House of Representatives.

Democrats are now in control of Congress for the first time in 12 years, but NARFE's goals haven't changed. We'll be supporting premium conversion legislation, which would let federal retirees and survivors pay health insurance premiums with pre-tax dollars, as well as bills to repeal or reform the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).

In an interview with the Federal Times, Hoyer said he's "hopeful that a wide range of issues affecting active and retired civilian federal employees will find a more friendly environment in a Democratic House."

We'll be hoping he's right.

STATE LEGISLATION

Ed Bice

The 2007 session of the General Assembly convened on January 10. The members of the Federation State Legislative Committee and others are seeking sponsors for our three initiatives for this session (See January newsletter).

I appeared before the District 23 delegation on January 6 detailing our initiatives. I am happy to report that sponsorship in the House of Delegates for the equalization of the special exemption for age 65+ bill is now in place. Delegates Holmes, District 23B and McConkey, District 33A, are primary sponsors as of this date. More sponsors to follow.

MEMBERSHIP

Dorothy Campbell

Membership Soars to Over 1,000 With 123 New Members!

We had a huge membership gain in December, which mainly resulted from an agreement between national NARFE and its Credit Union -- which brought our Chapter's membership to over 1,000!

That agreement included a special promotion in which the Credit Union gave a 1-year NARFE membership to each federal employee or retiree who joined the Credit Union during the promotion period. The result: **our Chapter gained 113 new members -- all current federal employees** (CFEs). The Maryland Federation gained approximately 1,200 members. In

addition to the 113 new members, we added another nine CFEs and one retiree member who chose to transfer to our chapter.

Welcome to our 123 new members!

Space constraints do not allow printing all 123 names in this issue. For the names of the first 73 new members, see page 3.

PROGRAMS

Dorothy Campbell

February Program - Gardening

The members and guests we had last year who really enjoyed the Talk/Slide program from Behnke Nurseries will be entertained this year as well. The title for the February program will be "Low Maintenance Gardening"—plants, bushes and soil. So I ask any one of you who is gardening, what is better than low maintenance that gives you time for a lot of other things you like to do? Bring a guest or two. Tell them what the title is and I'll bet we will fill the room.

CONDOLENCES

The following chapter members passed away recently. Our prayers and sympathy go out to their families and friends.

Avery L. Coleman
Beatrice Johnson
Theodore W. Lorei
William D. Paterson

CHAPTER 1747 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on: December 1, 2006	\$4,607.29
Income:	623.60
Expenses:	965.68
Reserves:	736.50
Balance on: December 31, 2006	\$3,528.71

DAYS TO REMEMBER

February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 19	President's Day
February 21	Ash Wednesday
February 22	Washington's Birthday

IN SEARCH OF...

ISO a WEBmaster. Our chapter needs to come into the 21st century. Is there anyone out there in cyberspace who can help develop a web page for our chapter? Please contact Frances Steburg or any of the officers listed on page 4.

A Warm Welcome to our First 73 New Members!

The 50 members not named here will be listed in the March Newsletter.

Mischelle Awkward- Marshall	Louise Fisher
Tajudeen Balogun	Gary Fontaine
Teresa Banks	James Ford
James A. Bath	Fatina Franklin
Albert Briggs	Colleen Fraser
Regena Bromery	Brenda Fuller
Johnny Brooks	William A. Gallagher
Evelyn Buckner	Mae Hall
Ingrid Buford	Charles Harrington
Phillip Burrows	Pamela Henderson
Janice Burton	Rebecca Holley
Thomas Butler	Wendell Holmes
Debra Byrd	William House
Patrick M. Casey	John Hussainzada
Dorothy Clingman	Constance Jackson
Gregory Cobert	Kimberly Jackson
Sara Connelly	Linwood Jenkins
Carol Cook	Barbara Johnson
George Courtney	Don Johnson
Ernest Cowan	Gwendolyn Johnson
Earl Cueto	Pamela Johnson
Howard Davenport	Paris Johnson
John A. Denton	Sherri Johnson
Beverly Diggs	Torri Johnson
Tasha Diggs	Anthony Jones
Donna Dorsey	Shirley Jones
Deborah Dudley	Wily Jones
Sara Eagle	Yolanda Jones
Cyril Estrill	Joseph Kennedy
Barbara Fair	Saul Macklin
Diane Fallica	Katelyn Marshall
Sylvia Faulkner	William Marshall
Kanithia Felder	Angel Martinez
Stanford Felder	Kathy McKoy
Karen Fenner	Demetrius Merritt
Lashonne Fields	Latasha Mitchell
	John Moore

NARFE CHAPTER 1747 NOMINATION FORM

Please use this form to submit your name or to nominate another member of Chapter 1747 for the following Officer positions. Those elected will serve a two-year term, from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009.

NAME: _____

Indicate the office you are interested in.

<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Treasurer

Please send to: Nominating Committee
NARFE Chapter 1747
P.O. Box 504
Bowie, Maryland 20718-0504

OR: Hand deliver to Frances Steburg at any general meeting or her residence. Contact Frances for more information at 301-352-0297 or by e-mail, feks@msn.com

Note: Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the May 2007 general meeting.

IMPORTANT FEDERAL CONTACTS

All are addressed as "The Honorable"

President George W. Bush <i>president@whitehouse.gov</i>	202-456-1111	
Senator Barbara A. Mikulski <i>www.mikulski@senate.gov</i>	202-224-4654	fax: 202-224-8858
Senator Ben Cardin <i>www.cardin@senate.gov</i>	202-224-4524	fax: 202-224-1651
Representative John Sarbanes District 3 <i>www.sarbanes.house.gov</i>	202-225-4016	fax: 202-225-9219
Representative Steny Hoyer District 5 <i>www.hoyer.house.gov</i>	202-225-4131	fax: 202-225-4300
Representative Albert Wynn District 4 <i>www.wynn.house.gov</i>	202-225-8699	fax: 202-225-8714

Greater Bowie-Crofton Area NARFE News

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Greater Bowie-Crofton Area
 NARFE Chapter 1747
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 Bowie, MD 20718-0504

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CHAPTER BOARD

Elected Officers

President	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	DEBice@netzero.net
1st Vice President	Dorothy Campbell	301-464-6372	Dcbowie@aol.com
2nd Vice President	Barbara Wheatley	301-352-6241	wheatley0@aol.com
Secretary	Roger Leonard	301-262-3405	dinopop@aol.com
Treasurer	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	pschuette@comcast.net
Assistant Treasurer	Mayer Weinblatt	301-262-3264	

Committee Chairs

Federal Legislation	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	pschuette@comcast.net
Membership Chair	Dorothy Campbell	301-464-6372	Dcbowie@aol.com
Newsletter	Frances Steburg	301-352-0297	feks@msn.com
	Jessica Forman	301-262-3222	jeci4man@verizon.net
Programs	Barbara Wheatley	301-352-6241	wheatley0@aol.com
Public Relations	Dorothy Campbell	301-464-6372	Dcbowie@aol.com
Service Officers	Bob Cullen	301-262-4783	ba3537@aol.com
	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	pschuette@comcast.net
	Lee Tuveson	301-262-3164	
State Legislation	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	DEBice@netzero.net

Activity Coordinators

Alzheimer's Fund	Maria Francer	301-464-5758	
Community Service	VACANT		
Meeting Sign-In/Greeter	Mary Catloth	301-390-2206	mcatloth@aol.com
NARFE-Net Coordinator	VACANT		
NARFE-PAC	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	DEBice@netzero.net
Photographer	Frank Lee	410-672-5065	fllee0716@aol.com
Refreshments	Jack Calloway	301-262-3457	
	Dave Galliard	301-262-7261	
	Tom Page	301-262-3418	
Events Coordinator	VACANT		
Sunshine	Doris Gordon	301-262-8618	

Next Meeting February 15, 2007 Low Maintenance Gardening